

**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY – POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**

THROUGH: Janice Schneider, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management

FROM: Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management

SUBJECT: Proposed Partial Withdrawal Revocation, Sunshine Campground Recreation Site,
Colorado

DATE:

I. INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the U.S. Forest Service (FS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is requesting that the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget approve a Public Land Order (PLO) to partially revoke a 21.91 acre portion of the 50 acres of National Forest System (NFS) land withdrawn for the Sunshine Campground Recreation Site by PLO 1378.

II. BACKGROUND

PLO 1378, published in the Federal Register on January 11, 1957, withdrew 28 sites encompassing 754.88 acres of NFS land within the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest for use as picnic grounds and recreational areas, including the 50 acre Sunshine Campground Recreation Site. The Campground is bisected by State Highway 145 (SH 145). The withdrawn land on the east side of SH 145 was never used as part of the Campground, and the FS has determined that the land is no longer needed for recreational purposes, but is suitable for disposal as part of the proposed Wilson Peak Land Exchange.

The overall purpose and need for the Wilson Peak Land Exchange is to 1) remove non-federal inholdings within or adjacent to upper-tier Colorado Roadless Areas, Congressionally-designated wilderness areas, or areas that are proposed to be designated wilderness; 2) consolidate public and private land ownership to improve long-term land management effectiveness; 3) restore public access to the summit of Wilson Peak; 4) enhance recreational access along and near the popular Boomerang Road; 5) preserve current and potential habitat for federally listed and forest sensitive species; and 6) enhance habitat for the Canada lynx, a federally listed endangered species.

A supplemental survey filed on December 5, 2014, established the boundaries of the 21.91 acre exchange parcel on the east side of SH 145, now described as Government Lot 11. A second supplemental survey filed on February 27, 2015, established the boundaries of the amended Sunshine Campground, which is now described as Lots 10 and 16 aggregating to 13.14 acres.

III. POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

The notice of the proposed partial relinquishment and subsequent conveyance of the land under the General Exchange Act was sent to over 100 interested parties including Colorado's Congressional Delegation, the Governor, and the Commissioners of San Miguel, Dolores, Gunnison and Saguache Counties. No comments concerning the revocation were received.

IV. LEGAL STATUS

There is no litigation associated with this proposed revocation.